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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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8 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

During the past 24 hours no major changes occurred in the battle line. ROK and US forces on the east coast continued to launch limited attacks to stabilize this still confused sector. The ROK 8th Division in the Yongchon area drove enemy patrols with tanks out of that key communication town. North of Taegu, elements of the US 1st Cavalry Division forced the enemy from a strategic ridge and are continuing a cautious advance northward.

UN naval action was limited to patrolling, close support fire missions, and air strikes in west central Korea.

Air forces continued attacks in close support of ground units and in line of communication interdiction. B-29s hit industrial and transportation installations in the North Korean east coast city of Songjin.

South Sector

Despite continuing enemy pressure, the US 25th Division has defended its positions with no loss of ground. Press reports indicate that the civilian population of Masan has been ordered to evacuate the city in order to protect the rear areas in the 25th Division zone against enemy infiltrations.

To the north along the Nakdong River, the US 2nd Division adjusted its northern flank to join the British 27th Brigade. The 23rd Regiment made a limited counterattack to secure more favorable terrain. The 38th Regiment was attacked with results as yet unreported.

Center Sector

In the Waegwan area, the US 1st Cavalry Division consolidated a new defense line utilizing more favorable terrain. The 8th Regiment forced the enemy from a ridge in the vicinity of the Walled City on

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Kasan mountain and is continuing a cautious attack to the north. The ROK 1st and 6th Divisions adjusted their lines north to join with the US 1st Cavalry. A heavy enemy attack was launched against the 15th Regiment of the ROK 1st Division but no gains have been reported. A heavy concentration of enemy forces has been reported in the area several miles north of Kasan.

East Sector

The ROK 8th Division drove a small enemy force supported by tanks from the key communications town of Yongchon. Heavy fighting is still reported in this area. Task Force Church (formerly designated as Task Force Jackson) continues to attempt to stabilize the still confused situation in the Kyongju-Pohang area. The 21st Regiment of the US 24th Division, supported by the 19th Regiment, attacked north and northwest of Kyongju against strong enemy resistance. Elements of the ROK Capital Division made an initial gain of 2,000 yards north toward Angang, but were repulsed by a strong enemy counterattack. An enemy attack on the ROK 3rd Division 3,000 yards south of Pohang was repulsed with the aid of naval fire.

Navy

UN naval action was limited to close support of ground troops, patrolling of the east and west coasts, and strikes in west central Korea by carrier-based planes.

Air

UN air units executed close support missions and continued interdiction of enemy lines of communication. A B-29 attack was made on the light metals plant and the railroad yards in the North Korean east coast city of Songjin.

II. General Situation

No significant reports have been received during the past 24 hours.

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Intelligence